

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An ink jet printer head, comprising:

at least one ejector unit having, in one of opposite surfaces thereof, a plurality of nozzles each of which ejects a droplet of ink toward a recording medium;

a cover member which has at least one first opening and is fixed to said one surface of said at least one ejector unit such that the nozzles of said at least one ejector unit are exposed through said at least one first opening;

a frame member including a bottom wall to which the other surface of said at least one ejector unit is fixed;

at least one sealing portion which seals a first to-be-sealed portion of the one surface of said at least one ejector unit and a second to-be-sealed portion of the cover member to each other continuously along a an entire periphery of said at least one first opening of the cover member;

at least one first adhering portion which adheres, ~~and thereby fixes, the cover member to said one surface~~ a first exposed edge portion of the other surface of said at least one ejector unit, and additionally adheres to a second exposed portion of the cover member that is different from the second to-be-sealed portion thereof and is adjacent to said first exposed edge portion of said at least one ejector unit, so as to fix said at least one ejector unit and the cover member to each other and thereby provide a subassembly including said at least one ejector unit

and the cover member; and

at least one second adhering portion which adheres, and thereby fixes, the subassembly including said at least one ejector unit and the cover member, to the bottom wall of the frame member, such that the other surface of said at least one ejector unit is fixed to the bottom wall of the frame member.

2. (Original) The ink jet printer head according to claim 1, wherein the frame member has at least one second opening which is formed through a thickness of the bottom wall thereof and is opposed to at least one portion of the subassembly in a reference direction perpendicular to the bottom wall, and

wherein said at least one second adhering portion is aligned with said at least one second opening in the reference direction.

3. (Original) The ink jet printer head according to claim 2, wherein said at least one first adhering portion comprises at least one non-alignment first adhering portion which is not aligned with said at least one second opening of the bottom wall of the frame member in the reference direction.

4. (Currently Amended) The ink jet printer head according to claim 1, wherein the nozzles of said at least one ejector unit are provided in at least one array, and

wherein the ink jet printer head comprises ~~a plurality of~~ at least three said first adhering portions which are provided in at least one array along at least one reference line substantially parallel to said at least one array of nozzles, such that the at least three first

adhering portions are arranged at a ~~first~~, substantially regular interval of distance; and a plurality of said second adhering portions which are provided in at least one array along said at least one reference line, such that the second adhering portions ~~are arranged at a second, substantially regular interval of distance and are mixed~~ present together with the first adhering portions within a predetermined range along said at least one reference line.

5. (Original) The ink jet printer head according to claim 1, wherein the nozzles of said at least one ejector unit are provided in at least one array, and

wherein said at least one first adhering portion is provided along at least one reference line substantially parallel to said at least one array of nozzles, such that lengthwise opposite ends of said at least one first adhering portion are located outside lengthwise opposite ends of said at least one second adhering portion, respectively.

6. (Original) The ink jet printer head according to claim 1, wherein said at least one sealing portion is formed of a sealing agent, and wherein said at least one first adhering portion is formed of an adhesive which hardens more quickly than the sealing agent.

7. (Original) The ink jet printer head according to claim 1, comprising a plurality of said ejector units,

wherein the cover member has a plurality of said first openings corresponding to the ejector units, respectively, and

wherein said at least one first adhering portion adheres, and thereby fixes, the ejector units and the cover member to each other, such that the nozzles of each one of the ejector

units are positioned relative to the nozzles of the other ejector unit or units.

8. (Original) The ink jet printer head according to claim 1, wherein said at least one first adhering portion is formed of an ultraviolet-light sensitive adhesive which hardens upon exposure to an ultraviolet light.

9. (Original) The ink jet printer head according to claim 1, wherein said at least one second adhering portion is formed of an ultraviolet-light sensitive adhesive which hardens upon exposure to an ultraviolet light.

10. (Original) The ink jet printer head according to claim 1, wherein the sealing portion is formed of a sealing agent, and wherein the sealing agent comprises a silicone adhesive.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of producing an ink jet printer head including at least one ejector unit having, in one of opposite surfaces thereof, a plurality of nozzles each of which ejects a droplet of ink toward a recording medium, a cover member having at least one first opening, and a frame member including a bottom wall, the method comprising the steps of:

providing, between a first to-be-sealed portion of the one surface of said at least one ejector unit and a second to-be-sealed portion of the cover member, a sealing agent continuously along a an entire periphery of said at least one first opening of the cover member, such that said at least one ejector unit and the cover member are sealed to each other, and such

that the nozzles of said at least one ejector unit are exposed through said at least one first opening of the cover member,

adhering and fixing, with a first adhesive, a first exposed edge portion of the other surface of said at least one ejector unit and a second exposed portion of the cover member that is different from the second to-be-sealed portion thereof and is adjacent to said first exposed edge portion of said at least one ejector unit, to each other, so as to provide a subassembly including said at least one ejector unit and the cover member, and

adhering and fixing, with a second adhesive, the subassembly including said at least one ejector unit and the cover member, to the bottom wall of the frame member, so as to provide the ink jet printer head including the subassembly and the frame member.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 11, further comprising a step of preparing the frame member having at least one second opening which is formed through a thickness of the bottom wall thereof,

wherein the step of adhering with the second adhesive comprises applying, through said at least one second opening of the frame member, the second adhesive to at least one portion of the subassembly.

13. (Original) The method according to claim 12, wherein the step of adhering with the first adhesive comprises adhering, with the first adhesive, said at least one ejector unit and the cover member to each other at at least one portion that is not aligned with said at least one second opening of the bottom wall of the frame member, in a reference direction perpendicular to the bottom wall of the frame member.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the first adhesive hardens more quickly than the sealing agent.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein at least one of the first and second adhesives comprises an ultraviolet-light sensitive adhesive that hardens upon exposure to an ultraviolet light.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the sealing agent comprises a silicone adhesive.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 11, further comprising a step of preparing a plurality of said ejector units, and

a step of preparing the cover member having a plurality of said first openings corresponding to the ejector units, respectively, and

wherein the step of adhering with the first adhesive comprises adhering, with the first adhesive, the ejector units and the cover member to each other, such that the nozzles of each one of the ejector units are positioned relative to the nozzles of the other ejector unit or units.

18. (Original) The ink jet printer head according to claim 1, wherein said at least one first adhering portion is continuously formed on respective exposed portions of said at least one ejector unit and the cover member.

19. (Original) The ink jet printer head according to claim 18, comprising a plurality of said first adhering portions which are formed in two arrays along widthwise opposite edge lines of said at least one ejector unit, such that each of the first adhering portions is continuously formed on the respective exposed portions of said at least one ejector unit and the cover member.

20. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the step of adhering with the first adhesive comprises continuously forming, with the first adhesive, at least one adhering portion on respective exposed portions of said at least one ejector unit and the cover member.

21. (New) The method according to claim 11, further comprising preparing said at least one ejector unit having the plurality of nozzles arranged in at least one array, wherein the step of adhering with the first adhesive comprises forming, with the first adhesive, at least one first adhering portion along at least one reference line substantially parallel to said at least one array of nozzles, and wherein the step of adhering with the second adhesive comprises forming, with the second adhesive, at least one second adhering portion along said at least one reference line such that lengthwise opposite ends of said at least one second adhering portion are located inside lengthwise opposite ends of said at least one first adhering portion, respectively.

22. (New) An ink jet printer head, comprising:
at least one ejector unit having, in one of opposite surfaces thereof, a plurality of nozzles each of which ejects a droplet of ink toward a recording medium;

a cover member which has at least one first opening and is fixed to said one surface of said at least one ejector unit such that the nozzles of said at least one ejector unit such that the nozzles of said at least one ejector unit are exposed through said at least one first opening;

a frame member including a bottom wall to which the other surface of said at least one ejector unit is fixed;

at least one sealing portion which seals a first to-be-sealed portion of the one surface of said at least one ejector unit and a second to-be-sealed portion of the cover member to each other continuously along an entire periphery of said at least one first opening of the cover member;

at least one first adhering portion which adheres to a first exposed edge portion of the other surface of said at least one ejector unit, and additionally adheres to a second exposed portion of the cover member that is different from the second to-be-sealed portion thereof and is adjacent to said first exposed edge portion of said at least one ejector unit, so as to fix said at least one ejector unit and the cover member to each other; and

at least one second adhering portion which adheres to at least said at least one ejector unit, so as to fix the other surface of said at least one ejector unit to the bottom wall of the frame member, wherein said at least one second adhering portion is at least partially offset, in an off-set direction parallel to the bottom wall, from said at least one first adhering portion adhering to the first exposed edge portion of said at least one ejector unit and the second exposed portion of the cover member.

23. (New) The ink jet printer head according to claim 22, wherein the ink-jet printer head includes a plurality of said first adhering portions which are distant from each other in the off-set direction, and said at least one second adhering portion is at least partially offset, in the off-set direction, from each of the first adhering portions.

24. (New) The ink jet printer head according to claim 23, wherein the ink-jet printer head includes at least three said first adhering portions which are distant from each other in the off-set direction, and a plurality of said second adhering portions which are distant from each other in the off-set direction and each of which is at least partially offset, in the off-set direction, from each of the first adhering portions.